



STATE OF MICHIGAN

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH  
LANSING

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TO: Michigan Physicians, Hospitals, Clinics and Employers

This information includes an instruction sheet, how to obtain an occupational disease report form, and a listing of several categories of occupational diseases disorders. This has been made available to you to assist in your complying with Part 56 of the Michigan Public Health Code which requires physicians, hospitals, clinics, or employers to report all known or suspected cases of occupational diseases. As a result of Executive Orders No. 1996-1 and 1996-2, the responsibilities for implementing Part 56 of the Michigan Public Health Code were transferred to the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth.

The instruction sheet gives some background on Code requirements and provides guidance on completing the report form. (See information listed after Public Health Code information). The following list of occupational diseases and disorders is taken from MIOSHA form #200 – Log and Summary of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses – where it is used for the purpose of classifying recordable illnesses. This list has been included for informational purposes and includes typical examples of types of illnesses and disorders under each category and some causative agents. It is not to be considered a complete listing but is to be used simply as a guide to indicate the types of diseases and conditions considered to be occupationally related.

Any inquiries regarding occupational disease reporting requirements should be directed to the Division of Occupational Health, Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth, P.O. Box 30649, Lansing, Michigan 48909-8149.

To obtain occupational disease report form go to this website: <http://www.chm.msu.edu/oem/>

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### CLASSIFICATIONS OF OCCUPATIONAL DISEASE

#### **Occupational Skin Diseases or Disorders**

Examples: Contact dermatitis, eczema, or rash caused by primary irritants and sensitizers or poisonous plant; oil acne; chrome ulcers, chemical burns or inflammations, etc.

#### **Dust Diseases of the Lungs (Pneumoconiosis)**

Examples: Silicosis, asbestosis, coal worker's pneumoconiosis, byssinosis, siderosis, and other pneumoconiosis.

#### **Respiratory Conditions Due to Toxic Agents**

Examples: Pneumonitis, pharyngitis, rhinitis or acute congestion due to chemicals, dusts, gases, or fumes; farmer's lung, etc.

#### **Poisoning (systemic Effect of Toxic Materials)**

Examples: Poisoning by lead, mercury, cadmium, arsenic, or other metals; poisoning by carbon monoxide, hydrogen sulfide, or other gases; poisoning by benzol, carbon tetrachloride, or other organic solvents; poisoning by insecticide sprays such as parathion, lead arsenate, poisoning by other chemicals such as formaldehyde, plastics, and resins, etc.

#### **Disorders Due to Physical Agents (Other than Toxic Materials)**

Examples: Heat stroke, sunstroke, heat exhaustion, and other effects of environmental heat; freezing, frostbite and effects of exposure to low temperatures; caisson disease; effects of ionizing radiation (isotopes, x-rays, radium); effects of nonionizing radiation (welding flash, ultraviolet rays, microwaves, sunburn); etc.

#### **Disorders Associated with Repeated Trauma**

Examples: Noise-induced hearing loss; synovitis, tenosynovitis, and bursitis; Raynaud's phenomena; and other conditions due to repeated motion, vibration or pressure.

#### **All Other Occupational Illnesses**

## Excerpts from the Michigan Public Health Code

### Article 5. Prevention and Control of Diseases and Disabilities

#### Part 56. Occupational Diseases

##### Sec. 5601.

(1) As used in this part, "occupational disease" means an illness of the human body arising out of and in the course of an individual's employment and having one or more of the following characteristics:

- (a) It is caused by a frequently repeated or continuous exposure to a hazardous substance or agent or to a specific industrial practice which is hazardous and which has continued over an extended period of time.
- (b) It is caused by an acute exposure to a hazardous substance or agent.
- (c) It presents symptoms characteristic of an occupational disease known to have resulted in other cases from the same type of specific exposure.

(2) In addition, article 1 contains general definitions and principles of construction applicable to all articles in this code and part 51 contains definitions applicable to this part.

##### Sec. 5611.

(1) A physician, hospital, clinic, or employer knowing of an individual having a case of occupational disease or a health condition aggravated by workplace exposures shall report the case to the department within 10 days after the discovery of the occupational disease or condition.

(2) A physician, hospital, clinic or employer knowing of a suspected case of occupational disease or a health condition aggravated by workplace exposures shall report the case to the department within 20 days after the discovery of the occupational disease or condition.

(3) The report shall state the name and address of the individual, the name and business address of the employer, the business of the employer, the place of the individual's employment, and length of time of employment in the place where the individual became ill, the nature of the disease, and other information required by the department.

(4) The department shall prepare and furnish the report forms and instructions for their use to physicians, hospitals, clinics, and employers.

##### Sec. 5613.

(1) The department, upon receiving a report under section 5611 or believing that a case or suspected case of occupational disease exists in this state, may investigate to determine the accuracy of the report and the cause of the disease.

(2) To aid in the diagnosis or treatment of an occupational disease, the department shall advise the physician in charge of a patient of the nature of the hazardous substance or agent and the conditions of exposure of the patient as established by the investigation. In so doing the department shall protect the confidentiality of trade secrets or privileged information disclosed by the investigations in accordance with section 13 of Act No. 442 of the Public Acts of 1976, being section 15.243 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

##### Sec. 5621.

(1) Reports submitted to the department under section 5611 are not public records and are exempt from disclosure pursuant to section 13(1)(d) of Act No. 442 of the Public Acts of 1976.

(2) The bureau of worker's disability compensation and the compensation appeal board in the department of labor shall have access to the record of an actual case of occupational disease in a compensation case before it.

##### Sec. 5623.

(1) Not less than once each year, the department shall compile statistical summaries of all occupational diseases reported and accepted as covering true occupational diseases, and the kinds of employment leading to the occurrence of the diseases.

(2) The department shall disseminate to appropriate employers in this state appropriate instructions and information to prevent the occurrence of occupational diseases.

##### Sec. 5639.

A physician, hospital or clinic administrator, or employer who fails to make a report or who willfully makes false statement in a report required by section 5611(1) is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not more than \$50.00.

## **BACKGROUND AND INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING KNOWN OR SUSPECTED OCCUPATIONAL DISEASE REPORT**

As a result of Executive Orders No. 1996-1, 1996-2 and 2003-18 and Part 56 of P.A. 368 of 1978, a physician, hospital, clinic or employer must report known or suspected cases of occupational diseases or workplace aggravated health conditions to the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth within 10 days after discovery of the disease or condition on a report form furnished by the department. This requirement does not apply to occupational injuries.

This report is furnished by the Department of Labor and Economic Growth in accordance with Section 5611(4) of P.A. 368 of 1978 and is required to be completed and submitted to the Department of Labor and Economic Growth at the address below for all such cases to fulfill the statutory mandate prescribed by Section 5611 or Part 56 of the Act.

### **Instructions for Completing Report**

#### **General:**

Multiple reports on the same individual for the same illness should not be submitted. The employer should return this form only if the employee is not referred to a physician, hospital, or clinic. If a physician returns the form indicating a suspected occupational disease and at a later date confirms this occupational disease, an updated form confirming their diagnosis and causative agent should be submitted.

#### **Employers:**

If an employer is submitting the form, all questions, with the exception of those indicated for physicians only, should be completed. The form should be completed by the employer at the time of onset, discovery, or suspected occurrence of the employee's illness and returned directly to Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth.

If the employee is referred to a physician, hospital, or clinic, the employer should complete the forms as stated above and the form should then accompany the employee for completion by the medical personnel.

#### **Physician, Hospital or Clinic:**

The questions on the form, with the exception of those indicated for physicians only, may be completed by the employer at the time of onset, discovery, or suspected occurrence of the employee's illness. The form should then accompany the employee at the time of referral to a physician, hospital, or clinic for medical evaluation where the remainder of the form should be completed and submitted to the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth. If the employee is seen by the physician without a referral from the employer, and the physician diagnoses a suspected or confirmed occupational illness, the entire form is to be completed by the physician and submitted to the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth.

It is the responsibility of the employer and of physicians, hospitals, and clinics to ensure that the form is properly completed, signed and submitted to the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth within 10 days after the onset of the disease, suspected occurrence of the disease, or a workplace aggravated health condition. The form must be completed for all suspected or actual occupational diseases or health conditions aggravated by workplace exposure, including death of the employee as a result of the disease or health condition aggravated by workplace exposure.

Completion of this report form does not relieve the employer of the requirements of notification fatalities and catastrophes and to maintain records of each recordable occupational injury or illness pursuant to the requirements of Public Act 154 of 1974, as amended, the Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Act.

**ADDITIONAL REPORT FORMS ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND ECONOMIC GROWTH**

**Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth  
Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration  
Management and Technical Services Division  
7150 Harris Drive, P.O. Box 30649  
Lansing, Michigan 48909-8149  
(517) 322-1851**